



# USDA EGG MARKET NEWS REPORT

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## NATIONAL EGG MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



In New York, prices were unchanged. In the Southeast and Northeast, prices were lower on the larger sizes. Elsewhere, weekly prices were lower on all sizes. The market tone was cautious and ranged barely steady to weak entering the week. Demand into all channels ranged slow to at times fairly good. Supplies were adequate to ample. Breaking stock offerings were fully adequate to ample for the light demand. Breaking schedules were reported as usually normal. Spent hen supplies were more than sufficient for regular slaughter schedules.

PRICES TO RETAILERS, SALES TO VOLUME BUYERS, USDA GRADE A AND GRADE A, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, DELIVERED WAREHOUSE, CENTS PER DOZEN.

**MIDWEST REGIONAL** Midwest warehouse delivered prices were lower for all sizes. Other reported prices were unchanged. Trade sentiment was barely steady to at times weak. Cartoned egg sales were mixed, usually slow to at times moderate. Loose egg demand was light to generally moderate. Supplies were adequate to ample with the larger sizes in the longest position. Central states breaking stock prices were unchanged to lower with checks and undergrades lower. Demand was light for the fully adequate to ample offerings. Floor stocks fully adequate to ample. Schedules full-time. Trade sentiment barely steady to weak.

	RANGE	MOSTLY	IA-MN-WI - Prices paid to producers.	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	64-73	68-70	LARGE	47-54	49
LARGE	64-72	66-69	MEDIUM	42-46	44
MEDIUM	59-65	62-64	SMALL	28-30	

MIDWEST AREA: IA, IL, IN, KY, MI, MN, OH, NE, ND, SD, WI, WV, Western NY, and Western PA

**NORTHEAST REGIONAL** Prices were lower on the larger sizes, but unchanged on medium eggs when compared to previous week's prices. The market tone was cautious entering the week. Demand into all outlets was light to moderate. Supplies were adequate to available for trade needs. Breaking stock offerings were fully adequate for the light demand. Schedules were usually normal. Spent hens were more than sufficient for the at least moderate demand. Processing schedules were reported as normal.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	72-86	72-75
LARGE	66-80	71-75
MEDIUM	60-73	66-67

NORTHEAST AREA: CT, DC, DE, MA, MD, ME, NH, eastern NJ, eastern NY, PA, RI, Northern VA, and VT

**SOUTH CENTRAL REGIONAL** Prices were lower for all sizes. Trade sentiment was barely steady to instances weak. Cartoned egg sales were light to moderate. Loose egg demand was moderate to at times fairly good. Supplies were fully adequate to ample for current needs. Central states breaking stock prices were unchanged to lower with checks and undergrades unchanged. Demand was light for the fully adequate to ample offerings. Floor stocks were fully adequate to ample. Schedules full-time. Trade sentiment barely steady to weak.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	73.5-82	75-78
LARGE	69.5-78	71-74
MEDIUM	63.5-72	65-68

SOUTH CENTRAL AREA: AR, AZ, CO, KS, LA, MO, NM, OK, and TX

**SOUTHEAST REGIONAL** Prices were lower on larger sizes, however mediums were unchanged when compared to previous week's prices. Trade sentiment was barely steady to weak. Demand was light to moderate. Supplies ranged adequate to available for current trade needs. Breaking stock offerings were fully sufficient to ample for generally normal breaking schedules. Light type hens were more than adequate for the at least moderate demand.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	70.5-81	72-75
LARGE	69-79	70-73
MEDIUM	61.5-69	62-66

SOUTHEAST AREA: AL, FL, GA, MS, NC, SC, eastern TN, and southern VA

PRICES TO RETAILERS, SALES TO VOLUME BUYERS, USDA GRADE A AND GRADE A, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, DELIVERED STORE DOOR, CENTS PER DOZEN.

**NEW YORK** Prices were unchanged. Trade sentiment was cautiously steady to weak. Demand was light to moderate. Supplies were adequate to available for current trade requirements.

	RANGE
EXTRA LARGE	80-84
LARGE	78-82
MEDIUM	72-76

**CHICAGO & MIDWEST EGGS** Prices were five cents lower on extra large and large and down one cent on mediums. The market tone was barely steady to weak. Retail and food service demand was light to moderate instances better. Supplies of lighter weights were balanced, larger sizes available.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	70-78	72-74
LARGE	69-77	70-73
MEDIUM	64-73	67-69

see page 3 for prices on certified organic eggs in cartons

**WESTERN** Prices unchanged on jumbo, 5 cents lower on extra large and large, and 1 cent lower on medium throughout the region. The Pacific region inventory was 2% lower than last Monday with California down 3% and Oregon-Washington-Utah unchanged. Retailer demand light to moderate. Offerings ample.

**CALIFORNIA** Prices unchanged on jumbo, 5 cents lower on extra large and large, and 1 cent lower on medium and small. The California inventory was 3% lower than last Monday. Retailer demand light to moderate. Offerings fully adequate. Small benchmark price 79. Ads in Northern California: major- large 18 pack 249, 2 for \$5, buy 1 get 1 free.

CALIFORNIA: California Egg Marketing Association and other marketers benchmark price for negotiated egg sales of USDA Grade AA and Grade AA in cartons, cents per dozen. This price does not reflect discounts or other contract terms.

	RANGE
JUMBO	121
EXTRA LARGE	112
LARGE	104
MEDIUM	99

PRICES TO CONSUMERS MAJOR CHAINS, METROPOLITAN AREA, USDA GRADE AA AND GRADE AA, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, CENTS PER DOZEN.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA		NORTHERN CALIFORNIA	
	RANGE		RANGE
JUMBO	279-349	JUMBO	279-409
EXTRA LARGE	269-369	EXTRA LARGE	269-399
LARGE	239-249	LARGE	239-389
MEDIUM	199-219	MEDIUM	199-329

**NATIONAL RETAIL EGG PURCHASES REPORT** Cooperators estimate orders for the week ending May 07, 2004 will increase by 23 percent. Present week purchases for the week ending April 30, 2004 were 190,025 cases which was 4 percent below the prior week and 7 percent below estimates.

	<b>CARTONED</b>	<b>LOOSE</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
Cases purchased present week.....	155,590	34,435	190,025

% change from the prior week.....	-5	-1	-4

Comparison figures are compiled on a matched plant basis. Purchases and estimates by 14 cooperators; 30 dozen cases or equivalent.

**CENTRAL STATES BREAKING STOCK** Breaking stock prices were unchanged to lower with checks and undergrades lower. Demand was light with offerings fully adequate to ample. Floor stocks fully adequate to ample. Schedules full-time. Trade sentiment barely steady to weak.

Prices in cents per dozen, delivered to breakers, 48 lb. minimum net weight per 30 dozen case, eggs from table egg layers. Packaging may vary.

	<b>RANGE</b>	<b>MOSTLY</b>
BREAKING STOCK	50-53	
CHECKS & UNDERGRADES	39-45	39-41

CENTRAL STATES AREA: AR,CO,IA,IL,IN,KS,LA,MI,MN,MO,NM,ND,NE,OH,OK,SD,TX,WI

**SOUTHEAST HEAVY LIVE HEN** Majority prices were unchanged to slightly lower when compared to a week earlier. Demand was moderate for the generally adequate to at least adequate offerings. Processing schedules were mostly normal. Supplies of finished product were clearing satisfactorily. The undertone was steady.

HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP) \*  
FINAL PRICE, CENTS PER LB., GENERALLY FOR SLAUGHTER THE WEEK OF 03-MAY-04

	<b>RANGE</b>	<b>MAJORITY</b>	<b>WTD AVG</b>
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	6.25-10.25	9-9.25	9.13
AT FARM PRODUCER LOADING		TOO FEW TO REPORT	
FOB PLANT		TOO FEW TO REPORT	

\*WEIGHTS UNDER 7 LBS. SUBJECT TO DISCOUNT.

**SOUTH CENTRAL HEAVY LIVE HEN** Prices trended slightly lower, although majority prices were unchanged when compared to a week earlier. Demand was moderate for adequate offerings of spent hens. Finished sales were fair to good. Schedules were normal. Trade sentiment was usually steady.

HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP) \*  
PRELIMINARY PRICE, CENTS PER LB., GENERALLY FOR SLAUGHTER THE WEEK OF 03-MAY-04

	<b>RANGE</b>	<b>MAJORITY</b>	<b>WTD AVG</b>
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	6-12	9-9.75	9.63

\*WEIGHTS UNDER 7 LBS. SUBJECT TO DISCOUNT.

# WEEKLY SHELL EGG INVENTORY REPORT-AM MAY 03, 2004

STOCKS ON HAND AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING 1/ 2/  
(30 DOZEN CASES-IN THOUSANDS)

		<b>NO</b>	<b>SO</b>	<b>SO</b>	<b>5-Area</b>	
		<b>Northeast</b>	<b>CENT</b>	<b>Atl</b>	<b>Pacific</b>	
Jumbo	Curr Wk	8.4	14.5	5.0	10.2	11.5
	Change	0.4	-0.3	0.4	0.1	1.4
Ex Lge	Curr Wk	18.9	47.0	17.1	24.4	37.4
	Change	-2.5	-4.8	-3.0	1.0	3.3
Large	Curr Wk	40.1	117.7	83.9	118.9	112.7
	Change	-9.4	-26.3	-2.5	8.1	-12.6
Medium	Curr Wk	12.5	38.1	12.9	19.9	27.9
	Change	-0.4	1.1	0.7	2.1	2.2
Small	Curr Wk	3.8	9.1	1.6	6.0	7.0
	Change	0.1	0.9	0.3	1.8	0.5
Misc	Curr Wk	5.6	23.3	10.7	17.0	4.4
	Change	-0.4	-0.3	0.6	2.4	-1.0
Ungraded	Curr Wk	17.9	62.1	26.1	33.1	24.7
	Change	2.1	-8.6	8.0	1.8	1.2
Total	Curr Wk	107.2	311.8	157.3	229.5	225.6
Percent	Change	-9%	-11%	3%	8%	-2%

<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>Number of Cases</b>	<b>Percent Change</b>	<b>Number of Cooperators</b>
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Shell Egg	1,031.4	-3%	170
Shell Egg Breaking Stock 2/	299.0	8%	35

Total Shell Egg	1,330.4	-1%	205
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1/ Information supplied by a universe of 170 cooperators who normally have stocks on hand each Monday A.M. and is on the basis of matched plants reporting in both the current and previous weeks. Sample does not represent total U.S. inventory but includes eggs packed for export when in cooperator's coolers.

No valid comparison can be made with year ago or previous months' figures due to changes in number of plants surveyed, holidays falling in different weeks or changes in size of plant operations.

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## CANADIAN EGGS

MONTREAL: WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICE TO RETAILERS (CANADIAN CENTS) GRADED IN CARTONS, AS REPORTED BY CANADA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 19, 2004

<b>GRADE A</b>	<b>XLARGE</b>	<b>LARGE</b>	<b>MEDIUM</b>	<b>SMALL</b>
	197	194	185	116

MINIMUM PRODUCER PRICES FOB FARM FOR THE WEEK COMMENCING APRIL 19, 2004 AS ESTABLISHED BY ONTARIO EGG AND FOWL PRODUCERS MARKETING BOARD.

<b>GRADE A</b>	<b>XLARGE</b>	<b>LARGE</b>	<b>MEDIUM</b>	<b>SMALL</b>
	151	151	141	77

**TRAILER LOAD EGG SALES** — DAILY WTD AVE PRICES (CENTS/DOZ) NATIONAL TRADING FOR APRIL 30, 2004

CURRENT LOADS								27.25		FUTURE LOADS								12.75		TOTAL LOADS								40.50			
SE				NE				MW				LOADS				SC				NW				SW				LOADS			
CLASS	ORG	DST		ORG	DST			ORG	DST			CLASS	ORG	DST		ORG	DST			ORG	DST			CLASS	ORG	DST					
GNR W 1	53.00	—		—	55.00	—		—	—	—	1.00	GL W XL	58.00	61.00	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	65.29	4.50	GL W XL	58.00	61.00	—	—		
GL W J	—	—		68.50	70.00	—		—	—	—	1.00	GL W LG	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	64.00	2.00	GL W LG	—	—	—	—		
GL W XL	67.00	69.00		64.00	66.00	56.43		—	—	—	4.75	NRBS - 48	49.00	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7.00	NRBS - 48	49.00	—	—		
GL W LG	—	—		50.00	—	55.00		—	—	—	4.75																				
GL W MD	—	—		59.00	60.00	—		—	—	—	1.00																				
GL W SM	40.50	42.50		—	—	—		—	—	—	1.00																				
NRBS - 48	49.00	49.67		—	—	50.00		51.00	25.00																						

**TRAILER LOAD EGG SALES** — WEEKLY (5-DAY) WTD AVE PRICES (CENTS/DOZ) NATIONAL TRADING FOR 04/26/04-04/30/04

CURRENT LOADS								78.75		FUTURE LOADS								46.25		TOTAL LOADS								125.00	
SE				NE				MW				SC				NW				MW									
CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	LOADS	CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	LOADS												
GNR W 1	53.00	—	56.63	56.83	—	—	6.00	GL W J	—	—	—	86.00	—	—	—	—	1.00												
GL W J	—	—	71.00	72.50	76.00	—	3.00	GL W XL	59.05	66.50	—	—	—	66.80	19.25														
GL W XL	67.00	67.22	67.00	67.37	59.29	67.00	48.25	GL W LG	56.00	68.00	—	—	—	65.82	8.75														
GL W LG	—	—	51.25	—	59.00	—	10.25	GL W MD	50.00	59.00	—	—	—	63.62	7.75														
GL W MD	58.00	56.00	58.33	59.75	59.72	—	22.00	NRBS - 48	50.13	—	—	—	—	—	19.00														
GL W SM	40.83	42.83	44.50	46.50	—	—	5.00	NRBS - 39	42.00	43.00	—	—	—	—	1.00														
NRBS - 48	49.00	49.67	—	54.00	56.56	56.30	99.00																						
NRBS - 45	—	—	52.50	53.20	—	—	2.50																						
NRBS - 42	—	—	—	—	43.00	45.00	4.00																						
NRBS - 39	—	—	46.50	48.00	—	—	.50																						
NRBS - 36	—	—	35.00	36.50	—	—	1.00																						

WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICES ARE LISTED FOR VARIOUS CLASSES PRICED BY ORIGIN AND/OR DESTINATION FOR 6 REGIONS. THE LOADS COLUMN REFLECTS TOTAL LOADS REPORTED AND INCLUDES LOADS WITH PRICES TO BE DETERMINED LATER. NRBS CATEGORIES REPRESENT NET WEIGHT - MATERIAL MAY OR MAY NOT BE INCLUDED.

**COLD STORAGE MOVEMENT-FROZEN EGGS** (In Thousands)

ON HAND	04/26/04	04/19/04	04/28/03
PACIFIC COAST	350	260	124
LOS ANGELES	290	199	92

**HONOLULU, OAHU-WHITE SHELL EGGS**

UNAVAILABLE

**NORTH CAROLINA EGGS** The market is steady on medium, lower on the balance. The supply is adequate. Retail demand is moderate. PRICES WEIGHTED AVERAGE, IN SMALL LOTS, USDA GRADE A AND GRADE A, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, NEARBY RETAIL OUTLET, CENTS PER DOZEN.

	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	90.63
LARGE	86.63
MEDIUM	79.63
SMALL	66.00

**CERTIFIED ORGANIC EGGS IN CARTONS**

(price per carton delivered to first receivers)

Brown Eggs	CENTS/CARTON	MOSTLY
Extra Large doz.	222 – 250	225 – 240
1/2 doz.	123 – 151	125 – 134
Large doz.	200 – 250	217 – 227
1/2 doz.	120 – 142	128 – 133

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